

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/004,511  
Applicant : Shannon Morris  
Filed : October 22, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 3728  
Examiner : Luan Kim Bui  
  
Docket No. : OSSV-083441  
Customer No. : 30764

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MAR 30 2004

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**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(b)**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner of Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time of two (2) months for filing her reply brief on appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Sufficient cause exists for this request, and the extension requested is reasonable.

The ground for this request is that Applicant has pending a *Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181*, seeking to require the Examiner to reopen prosecution so that Applicant can address a changed claim interpretation that was divulged for the first time in the *Examiner's Answer*. The *Examiner's Answer* was mailed February 6, 2004, making Applicant's reply brief on appeal due April 6, 2004. Applicant diligently filed her *Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181* nearly six weeks ago, on February 18, 2004, but has yet to receive a decision on the *Petition*.

An extension of time is necessary because the two-month period for filing a reply brief expires in one week, and Applicant has no indication that the *Petition* will be acted upon in the remaining time, nor any guarantee that the *Petition* will be granted. Applicant has not begun preparing a reply brief in the expectation that her *Petition* will be granted. If the *Petition* is not granted, Applicant will require a new two month period to prepare her reply brief.

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No extension fee is due for an extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(b). As a precaution, Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby authorizes any fee required to be paid in connection with this *Request* to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-1853.

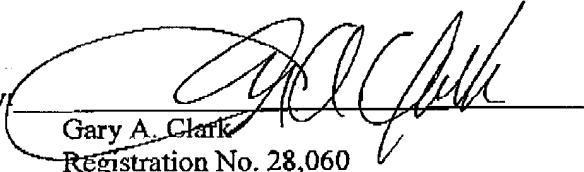
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the time for filing a reply brief be extended by two months, to and including June 6, 2004.

Dated: March 30 2004

Respectfully Submitted,

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP

By

  
Gary A. Clark

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